

## **REMARKS**

Claim 1 has been amended. Claims 1-13 are pending in the present application.

### **Claim objections:**

The Examiner objected to claim 1 because of informalities. Applicant amended claim 1 to replace the typo “pre-would” with the term “pre-wound” as used throughout the specification and the claims.

### **Claim rejection under 35 USC §112:**

Claims 1-13 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

The Examiner objected to the term “knocking”. In particular, the Examiner stated that this term could be interpreted to have a variety of meanings such as “applying pressure”, “welding”, “melting”, or perhaps “engine knocking.” Applicant disagrees that such interpretations are possible. The present application refers to a manufacture method for a catalytic converter housing. The last limitation of independent claim 1 reads:

*“knocking said pre-wound jacket at a frequency of 20 to 80 Hz during said compression to cause setting of said intumescent mat between said core and said jacket.”*

The ordinary meaning of the term “knocking, to knock” in the field of mechanical manufacturing according to Merriam-Webster dictionary is “to strike something with a sharp blow”, “to collide with something”, “to cause to collide”, “to strike sharply”, etc. For the convenience of the Examiner, Applicant includes a copy of the respective web-site including a definition of the term “to knock”. Thus, a person skilled in the art would never be confused by other meanings of this term, such as “engine knocking”. The specification particularly refers to the manufacture of a catalytic converter housing. No engine is mentioned. Furthermore, the

other terms mentioned by the Examiner, namely "welding" or "melting" can not be subsumed under the term "knocking", because no dictionary includes these terms for the verb "to knock."

The meaning of the term "knocking" is even more clear in the context of the above cited limitation. Knocking is preformed during the step of compressing to cause setting of the mat. This limitation refers to a mechanical treatment of the housing. Thus, a person skilled in the art will readily understand that some sort of local force has to be applied to the housing as it is performed when knocking on something or striking something with a blow whereby the desired mechanical movement within the housing, namely the setting, is caused.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for pointing out that the claims are generally allowable. However, as stated above Applicant believes that the term "knocking" is sufficiently clear and, thus, respectfully requests allowance of the present set of claims.


### **CONCLUSION**

The application as defined in the pending claims is patentable under 35 U.S.C. §112 in view of the cited prior art. Therefore, applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of all pending claims.

Applicants do not believe that any other fees are due at this time; however, should any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be required for any reason relating to this document, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct the fees from Deposit Account No. 02-0383, (*formerly Baker & Botts, L.L.P.*) Order Number 71308.0102.

BAKER BOTTS, L.L.P.

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## Merriam-Webster Online Dictionary

Thesaurus

11 entries found for **knock**. The first 10 are listed below.  
To select an entry, click on it. For more results, [click here](#).

knock[1,verb]  
knock[2,noun]  
knock back  
knock down  
knock-down-drag-out  
knock-knee

Go

Main Entry: **<sup>1</sup>knock** 🔊

Pronunciation: 'nāk

Function: *verb*

Etymology: Middle English *knoken*, from Old English *cnocian*; akin to Middle High German *knochen* to press  
*intransitive senses*

- 1 : to strike something with a sharp blow
- 2 : to collide with something
- 3 a : **BUSTLE** <heard them *knocking* around in the kitchen>
- b : **WANDER** <*knocked* about Europe all summer>
- 4 a : to make a pounding noise b : to have engine knock
- 5 : to find fault

*transitive senses*

- 1 a (1) : to strike sharply (2) : to drive, force, or make by or as if by so striking b : to set forcibly in motion with a blow
- 2 : to cause to collide
- 3 : to find fault with <always *knocking* those in authority>
- **knock cold** : **KNOCK OUT** 2a(1)
- **knock dead** : to move strongly especially to admiration or applause <a comedian who really *knocks* them *dead*>
- **knock for a loop** 1 a : **OVERCOME** <*knocked* my opponent *for a loop*> b : **DEMOLISH** <*knocked* our idea *for a loop*> 2 : **DUMBFOUND, AMAZE** <the news *knocked* them *for a loop*>
- **knock one's socks off** : to overwhelm or amaze one <a performance that will *knock your socks off*>

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- **knock together** : to make or assemble especially hurriedly or in a makeshift way <*knocked together* my own bookcase>

For **More Information** on "knock" go to [Britannica.com](http://Britannica.com)

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